

Minutes

TO: Finance and Budget Committee

FROM: Shari Cantor, Chairperson

DATE: June 13, 2013

SUBJECT: Finance and Budget Committee Meeting

In Attendance: Shari Cantor, Harry Captain, Denise Hall, Ron Van Winkle, Chris Johnson, Pat Alair, Kimberly Boneham, Elizabeth Hewitt

The Finance and Budget Committee met on Tuesday, June 11, 2013, at 5:45 p.m. in Town Hall, Room 312, to discuss the following:

AGENDA

1. Tax Appeals
The Committee reviewed tax appeal settlements on several properties.
2. State Budget Adoption
The Committee discussed the recently adopted State budget and its impact on West Hartford.
3. Finance Director Transition
Chris Johnson is retiring July 17th and a new director will take over. The Committee discussed that transition.
4. Fire Station Grant
The Committee discussed a resolution that will be on the July 28th Council agenda for the acceptance of a \$98,200 FEMA grant for improvements to the Prospect Avenue Fire Station and the purchase of self-contained breathing apparatus.
5. Purchasing Cards
Chris Johnson discussed the use of purchase cards and how we audit those purchases.
6. FY2013 Budget
Chris Johnson discussed the FY2013 budget and financial data, though May we continue to project a strong surplus.
7. Sole Source Purchases
Chris Johnson reviewed a list of ten sole source purchases over the last fiscal year and our procedure and policy with respect to the approval of a sole source purchase.
8. Fiber Update
The Town has installed fiber connection to nearly all of our schools and public buildings. There are over 70 miles of town-owned fiber in West Hartford. Access to high speed fiber could be a unique economic development tool and the town is reviewing its system to determine if some opportunity may exist in this system.

9. Energy

The town has recently bid its electricity procurement. When we first began to purchase electricity using a broker in 2009 we paid 8.775 cents per kilowatt that price has fallen for us with each successive bid. The most recent bid went to Aequitas Energy at 7.18 cents per kilowatt. This contract will result in a \$65,000 savings for the town.

C: Town Council
Ronald Van Winkle, Town Manager
Joseph O'Brien, Corporation Counsel
Essie Labrot, Town Clerk
Department Directors
Karen List, Superintendent of Public Schools